

# THE SAFARI COLLECTION, SOLIO LODGE

Mount Kenya Region, Kenya



## CLASSIC FACTORS

- ❖ Exceptionally strong Black and White rhino population due to conservation efforts.
- ❖ Wonderful activities on the ranch, outside the rhino sanctuary, including: walking, cycling, horseback riding and trout fishing on the nearby slopes of Mount Kenya and the Aberdares.
- ❖ Vast cottages with open fires, each with outstanding views of Mt Kenya and a perfect place to spot a rhino from your bed!
- ❖ Some of the best food in the bush! Fresh vegetables and salad from the garden Solio Lodge offers light and extremely well flavoured meals, be it in the bush or in camp.

## WHERE

Nestled between Mt Kenya and the Aberdare Mountains, almost on the equator. Solio Game Reserve is on a private and exclusive conservancy area that is best known for its rhino conservation efforts. Solio's geographical position makes it the perfect destination en route to the 'Northern circuit'.

## WHEN TO GO

July to October is the long dry season in Kenya. The long rains are between March and May, with short rains in November and December.  
Solio Lodge is closed from 1 – 15 November 2013

## GETTING THERE

### BY AIR:

- ❖ DOMESTIC: Nanyuki Airstrip – 30 minute transfer to / from Solio Lodge.
- ❖ INTERNATIONAL: Nairobi International Airport – a 3 hours drive to / from Solio
- ❖ PRIVATE AIRSTRIP: Solio Lodge has a private airstrip that can be used for chartered flights only 10 minutes from the lodge.  
Coordinates of airstrip: S 0014.436 & E 03652.498.

## CLASSIC REPRESENTATION

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**BY ROAD:** Situated 180 kilometres (approx 3 hours drive) north of Nairobi or 30 kilometres north of Nyeri on the Nyeri – Nyahururu road.

## HOSTS

Ava Paton is the General Manager.

Short profile:

I had the good fortune of being invited to Kenya in 1986 by Angela Sheldrick with whom I studied Graphic Design in Cape Town. I immediately fell in love with the country and after spending 3 months here it was very difficult to leave. 10 years later she and her husband Robert Carr-Hartley offered me a job which I was only too delighted to accept at Colcheccio which is now Loisaba. From there I was at Elsa's Kopje in Meru for close on 7 years, then Shompole and back to Meru to start Rhino River Camp. I feel Solio Lodge is a very unique product along with the Rhino Sanctuary and am really enjoying being here, especially the cooler climate! My passion for food and the kitchen garden comes from living in Italy for 5 years where I learnt the simplicity of good quality fresh produce and use of fresh herbs to enhance flavours.

## HOW EXCLUSIVE

Only 6 suites within four opulent yet individual cottages and one family cottage. The family cottage has 2 suites with a co-joining sitting room and bar area. Each cottage has plate glass windows to encapsulate the expansive views overlooking Mount Kenya and the plains.

Available for exclusive use by prior arrangement. See separate rates sheet for rates.

## IN-ROOM FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- ❖ Wireless internet access.
- ❖ Hairdryer.
- ❖ Fridge.
- ❖ Kettle.
- ❖ iPod docking station.

## DINING OPTIONS

Solio Lodge offers some of the best cuisine in Kenya! Avas love of food and expert cooking skills have been passed onto her chefs and the dining at Solio Lodge is always superb. There is a main dining room in the mess and a stunning deck on the lawn under a large Fever tree overlooking a watering hole and onto Mt Kenya. Bush meals are a must and private dining in your room is possible upon request. All meals are on a set menu basis, although if it is not to your taste you can order something separately at tea.

## ACTIVITIES

Established in 1970, Solio Game Reserve has been dedicated towards the safe sanctuary for both black and white rhinoceros with over 74 Black and 155 White living in harmony with an abundance of other wildlife including Buffalo, Lion, Zebra, Cheetah, Giraffe, Leopard, Eland, Oryx, Impala, Waterbuck, Thomson's Gazelle and Warthog. In addition to this, an abundance of birdlife is scattered amongst permanent water holes and the acacia lined Moyo River which traverse the entire reserve.

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Activities include:

- ❖ 4x4 safari in the rhino sanctuary.
- ❖ Walking, jogging and cycling through Solio Ranch (avoids the rhino sanctuary as with such high density of rhino is not safe to walk amongst them).
- ❖ Horse riding through Solio Ranch.
- ❖ Trout fishing in the Aberdare National Park and Mt Kenya (additional cost to Mt Kenya).
- ❖ Helicopter and bi-plane flights (additional cost).
- ❖ Day trip 4x4 safari to the Aberdare National Park with beautiful waterfalls to explore and forests which are habituated by elephant, buffalo and wonderful species of monkey including the Colobus.

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## TOTS OR NOT

Yes! Children of all ages are welcome.

- ❖ Babysitters can be arranged by prior arrangement.
- ❖ Special meals can be prepared for children.
- ❖ An extra bed in the room is available at an extra charge – see rates sheet for info.
- ❖ We recommend that parents with children book the family unit (cottages 5 and 6).

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## GIVING BACK

Solio Game Reserve is internationally recognized as the most successful private rhinoceros breeding reserve in Kenya and is responsible for having trans-located over 100 black and 60 white rhinoceros to other parts of Kenya over the years including 6 to Uganda. The main purpose of the game reserve is to provide a refuge to wildlife which would otherwise be deprived of suitable habitat and, as such, is an immensely important contribution to the conservation of wildlife in Kenya.

The Carr-Hartley family has long had a relationship with Solio, as the conservancy was originally stocked with rhino and other wild animals by Mikey Carr-Hartley's family to create the reserve which protects the endangered Black Rhino.

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## GOOD TO KNOW...

**MALARIA:** As the lodge is situated at an altitude of 6000 feet, there has been no known occurrence of malaria in the area. However, please consult your physician as travelling to and from Solio Lodge may expose you to such conditions.

**ELECTRICITY:** Solar electricity is provided throughout the property. Kenya has the same plug points as the UK - guests out with the UK are advised to bring adaptors.

**DISABLED ACCESS:** Cottage 3 has disabled access.

**CREDIT CARDS:** Major credit cards are accepted.

**VISAS:** Visas are required for citizens from certain countries. Best to check in advance. Depending on the length of stay most visas can be obtained upon entry provided they are tourist visas and are not for a lengthy period of time.

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